

IN THE CLAIMS

Please amend the claims as follows:

Claim 1 (Currently amended): A method to allocate bandwidth, which method is intended for a central controller of ~~[[a]]~~ an ad-hoc network, comprising ~~the following steps:~~

allocating a predetermined amount of bandwidth to a certain connection requiring a certain quality of service, wherein an owner of said certain connection is a requesting terminal which is a terminal of said ad-hoc network or said central controller,
~~characterized by~~

freeing a certain amount of the allocated predetermined amount of bandwidth as freed bandwidth, said certain amount of freed bandwidth being ~~the a~~ difference ~~[[of]]~~ between said predetermined amount of bandwidth and ~~a needed~~ an indicated needed amount of bandwidth indicated by said owner, wherein said indicated needed amount of bandwidth does not exceed said predetermined amount of bandwidth, and

in case said owner requests a re-allocation of all or parts of ~~at least parts of~~ the freed bandwidth, immediately re-allocating as much of the freed bandwidth as required~~[[,]]~~ so that said indicated needed amount of bandwidth is available to said owner.

Claim 2 (Currently amended): The method according to claim 1, further comprising:

~~characterized by~~

allocating some or all of said certain amount of freed bandwidth to a connection without quality or service requirements, the connection being a connection of the ad-hoc network.

Claim 3 (Currently amended): The method according to claim 1,

~~characterized in that~~

wherein said requesting terminal is operated by reserving a predetermined amount of bandwidth for providing a certain quality of service for said connection, and said method further comprises:

~~characterized by~~

determining ~~[[the]]~~ a filling status of ~~[[the]]~~ a transmit queue which indicates how much sending data is in the transmit queue,

determining a needed amount of bandwidth ~~which is~~ as bandwidth needed in a ~~predetermined future, in particular in a predetermined future~~ next transmission frame, the needed amount of bandwidth depending on the filling status of the transmit queue and not exceeding said predetermined amount of bandwidth, and

indicating said needed amount of bandwidth to said central controller.

Claim 4 (Currently amended): A method to reserve bandwidth for a connection of ~~[[a]]~~ an ad-hoc network, which method is intended for a requesting terminal or a central controller of said ad-hoc network, wherein

the requesting terminal ~~and/or~~ or the central controller comprises a transmit queue for buffering sending data, and

the requesting terminal is a terminal of ~~[[a]]~~ the ad-hoc network with said central controller,

the method comprising ~~the following steps,~~

reserving a predetermined amount of bandwidth for providing a certain quality of service for said connection

~~characterized by~~

determining ~~[[the]]~~ a filling status of the transmit queue which indicates how much sending data is in the transmit queue,

determining a needed amount of bandwidth which is needed in a ~~predetermined~~
~~future, in particular in a predetermined future~~ next transmission frame, the needed amount of
bandwidth depending on the filling status of the transmit queue and not exceeding said
predetermined amount of bandwidth, and

indicating said needed amount of bandwidth to said central controller.

Claim 5 (Currently amended): The method according to claim 4, further comprising
~~characterized in that~~

operating said central controller ~~is operated~~ by allocating a predetermined amount of
bandwidth to a certain connection requiring a certain quality of service, wherein an owner of
said certain connection is a requesting terminal which is a terminal of said ad-hoc network or
said central controller,

~~characterized by~~

freeing a certain amount of the allocated predetermined amount of bandwidth as freed
bandwidth, said certain amount of freed bandwidth being the difference of said
predetermined amount of bandwidth and ~~a needed~~ an indicated needed amount of bandwidth
indicated by said owner, and

in case said owner requests a re-allocation of at least parts of the freed bandwidth,
immediately re-allocating as much of the freed bandwidth as required[[,]] so that said
indicated needed amount of bandwidth is available to said owner.

Claim 6 (Currently amended): The method according claim 1, wherein
~~characterized in that~~

said ad-hoc network is an ad hoc network, ~~in particular~~ operated according to the European Telecommunications Standard Institute High Performance Radio Local Area Networks/2 (ETSI HIPERLAN/2) standard.

Claim 7 (Currently amended): A central controller of ~~[[a]]~~ an ad-hoc network comprising

a bandwidth allocation means that allocates a predetermined amount of bandwidth to a connection with a certain quality of service requirement,

the central controller or a requesting terminal being an owner of said connection ~~being said central controller or a requesting terminal,~~

~~characterized by~~

a bandwidth freeing means ~~that receives~~ for receiving a request signal sent out by said owner indicating ~~[[a]]~~ an indicated needed amount of bandwidth and ~~that [[-]]in particular in the case that said~~ when a certain amount of bandwidth neither exceeds said predetermined amount of bandwidth nor said indicated needed amount of bandwidth, ~~[[-]]~~ freed ~~[[a]]~~ the certain amount of bandwidth which is ~~the~~ a difference ~~[[of]]~~ between said predetermined amount of bandwidth and said indicated needed amount of bandwidth, and

a bandwidth re-allocation means for immediately re-allocating as much of said certain amount of bandwidth as required so that said indicated needed amount of bandwidth according to said request signal is available to said owner when ~~that [[-]]in particular in the case that said~~ certain amount of bandwidth neither exceeds said predetermined amount of bandwidth nor said indicated needed amount of bandwidth ~~[[-]]~~ immediately re-allocates as much of said certain amount of bandwidth, so that said indicated amount of bandwidth according to said request signal is available to said owner.

Claim 8 (Currently amended): The central controller according to claim 7,
comprising
~~characterized by~~
a transmit queue for buffering sending data, and
a monitoring means[[,]] ~~that monitors the~~ for monitoring a filling status of said
transmit queue and ~~indicates~~ indicating said indicated needed amount of bandwidth, which
depends on the filling status of the transmit queue, to said bandwidth freeing means ~~and/or~~ or
to said bandwidth re-allocation means.

Claim 9 (Currently amended): The central controller according to claim 7,
~~characterized in that~~ wherein
said ad-hoc network is ~~an ad-hoc network, in particular~~ operated according to the
European Telecommunications Standard Institute High Performance Radio Local Area
Networks/2 (ETSI HIPERLAN / 2) standard.

Claim 10 (Currently amended): A requesting terminal of [[a]] an ad-hoc network
having a connection with other terminals of the ad-hoc network or with a central controller of
the ad-hoc network,

the connection requiring a certain quality of service and therefore a predetermined
amount of bandwidth,

comprising
a transmit queue for buffering sending data,
~~characterized by~~
a monitoring means[[,]] ~~that monitors the~~ for monitoring a filling status of said
transmit queue and sends out a request signal to said central controller indicating a needed

amount of bandwidth, which depends on the filling status of said transmit queue, the needed amount of bandwidth not exceeding the predetermined amount of bandwidth.

Claim 11 (Currently amended): The central controller according to claim 10, wherein
~~characterized in that~~

said ad-hoc network is ~~an ad-hoc network, in particular~~ operated according to the
European Telecommunications Standard Institute High Performance Radio Local Area
Networks/2 (ETSI HIPERLAN /2) standard.

Claim 12 (Currently Amended): The method according to claim 4,
~~characterized in that~~

said ad-hoc network is ~~an ad-hoc network, in particular~~ operated according to the
European Telecommunications Standard Institute High Performance Radio Local Area
Networks/2 (ETSI HIPERLAN / 2) standard.

Claim 13 (New): The method according to claim 1 or 2, wherein said allocated
predetermined amount of bandwidth corresponds to a fixed reserved amount of bandwidth.

Claim 14 (New): The method according to claim 1 or 2, wherein said allocated
predetermined amount of bandwidth is allocated based on fixed capacity allocation.

Claim 15 (New): The method according to claim 1 or 2, wherein the freed bandwidth
is re-allocated in a next transmission frame.